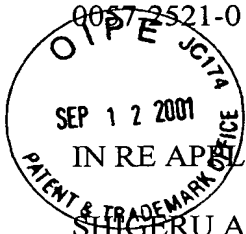


0057-2521-0 PCT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

SHIGERU AIHARA ET AL

: EXAMINER: DOVE, T.

SERIAL NO: 09/381,295

FILED: SEPTEMBER 22, 1999

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1745

FOR: BATTERY

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OK to Enter
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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Final Rejection mailed May 22, 2001, please amend the application identified above as follows (marked-up copy of amendments attached):

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Paragraph beginning at page 10, line 5:

(Two Times Amended) [The average particle size of the filler to be added is

preferably not greater than that of the electrode active material, particularly 1 μm or smaller.

Filler particles having an average particle size of 1 μm or greater form pores the diameter of which approximates the pore size of the electrode, and the ability of holding the electrolytic solution decreases. Where filler particles have an average particle size equal to or greater

than the particle size of the electrode active material, the pores lose the ability of holding the electrolyte, resulting in reductions of battery characteristics. That is, the filler added

#9/BIB
9.18.01

blc